

Introduced: 1/26/87
 Referred: Transportation

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY DAVIS, KOPONEN, BOYER,
 FRANK, MILLER AND CATO

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 8 am S

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to reauthorization of the
 6 Surface Transportation Assistance Act.

7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

8 WHEREAS the 99th Congress adjourned without reauthorizing the Surface
 9 Transportation Assistance Act; and

10 WHEREAS the failure to reauthorize the Surface Transportation Assis-
 11 tance Act results in suspension of funding for federal-aid highway con-
 12 struction, rehabilitation, and safety projects throughout the nation; and

13 WHEREAS over \$150,000,000 in new highway planning, engineering, and
 14 construction projects are planned in Alaska for 1987 and these projects are
 15 necessary to improve the highway transportation system to foster future
 16 economic development and to prevent hardship to those employed in the
 17 transportation construction industry and related fields; and

18 WHEREAS the construction season in Alaska is limited to seven months a
 19 year and further delays in reauthorization of the Surface Transportation
 20 Assistance Act prevent construction of needed projects during 1987; and

21 WHEREAS Alaska, because of its size and unique environment, is depen-
 22 dent upon federal-aid highway funds for the development of a viable trans-
 23 portation system; and

24 WHEREAS the present formulas for allocation of federal-aid highway
 25 funds take into consideration the vast area of Alaska that must be served
 26 by highway transportation and equitably distribute the available funds
 27 among the states; and

28 WHEREAS Alaska is experiencing a severe economic recession and high
 29 unemployment and further delays in the highway construction program for

1 1987 will aggravate the present economic situation;

2 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests
3 the Congress to expeditiously enact legislation reauthorizing the Surface
4 Transportation Assistance Act and to maintain the present formulas for
5 allocation of federal-aid highway funds among the states.

6 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable George Bush,
7 Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the
8 Honorable Jim Wright, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; and to
9 the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators,
10 and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska
11 delegation in Congress.